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## A CONTRACT SOUGHT TO BE AVOIDED ON THE GROUND OF INSANITY.

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At a session of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, then at Northampton, Aug. 22d, 1848, by Judge Dewey, was tried the case of Allis by guardian *vs.* Billings and others. Counsel for plaintiff, Chapman of Springfield, and Baker of Northampton; for defendants, Rufus Choate of Boston, and Huntington of Northampton.

The suit was brought by the plaintiff for the purpose of annulling a contract made several years previous, whereby he conveyed to the defendants his interest in certain mills, on the ground that the former was then insane, and that the latter were guilty of fraud. Although the case presented nothing particularly new in medicine or law, yet I have thought it sufficiently important and interesting to be worthy of a permanent record. Before proceeding to the evidence, it will facilitate the understanding of the case, to mention, as they occurred, the principal events and incidents which have a bearing upon it.

Josiah Allis, now about 50 years old, was the only son of a farmer in Hatfield, who used the products of his farm chiefly in stall feeding cattle for the beef market. In 1819 he was first attacked with mania, under the form of high, though not furious excitement. He recovered, apparently, in the course of two or three months, but every year since has been visited by a similar attack, which has been invariably followed by a period of depression, and this by a period of apparent restoration to his natural condition. In 1822 he married his first wife, by whom he had two daughters, now married. In 1829 his father died, leaving him executor of his will, and residuary legatee to nearly all his property. In 1833 his wife died. In March, 1834, he made a contract with Bodwell, the husband of his only sister, whereby the latter was induced to move upon Allis's farm, and maintain him and his family. At the end of a year this contract was dissolved by mutual consent. On March 21st, 1834, he made the contract for the sale of the mills, which it was the object of this suit to avoid. For his interest in the property, being one half, he received \$4000, and a release from certain unsettled claims which, he supposed, might amount to \$500. In this year his mother died. In March, 1835, he sold his homestead for \$4,600, with the ex-

pectation of receiving \$500 more. In the fall of the next year he married his second wife. In Nov., 1842, his oldest daughter, and the next year his other daughter, were married. In 1843 he commenced a suit against the purchaser of his homestead, for avoidance of the contract. He obtained a verdict, but subsequent law proceedings were instituted, and the matter is still pending. In the latter part of 1843, he was placed under guardianship. On July 6th, 1844, he was sent to the Worcester Lunatic Hospital, where he staid six weeks.

Bearing these dates in mind, we shall more readily understand what follows. The evidence respecting his mental condition, embracing, as it did, a period of nearly thirty years, was sadly lacking in precision. Nearly all the witnesses were his neighbors, and a large part of them related to him by blood or marriage. His condition and affairs had been, for several years, a subject of animated discussion among them, and it would not be strange, if, under such circumstances, dates were sometimes incautiously fixed, and statements received a coloring that did not belong to them. It was abundantly proved by the evidence, that Allis was a subject of periodical insanity, each attack being characterized by a turn of excitement and depression, an interval intervening between the attacks, more or less free from both. They occurred every year. At most there was but one year in which their occurrence was called in question. The season, severity and duration of the excitement and depression, were points not established with much precision, and our conclusions respecting them must be, in some measure, conjectural.

It appears that the excited turns usually commenced in the middle or latter part of summer, continuing from one to three months. While under their influence, he was noisy, boisterous and talkative. The various other manifestations of this condition, as related by the witnesses, were, for the most part, referred to particular attacks, and were probably confined to them. In this manner it was stated that he would drive about rapidly and carelessly, shouting and hallooing; that he indulged in wild and incoherent expressions, and was observed rambling about without hat, coat or shoes. At different times, too, he entertained some strange fancies which were not far from being real delusions. He professed to be able to walk on the water; to catch a person's breath in his teeth; to have command of angels; to tame a ferocious woodchuck by looking in his eye; and to hold up through a storm a whole broadside of a house frame which they were raising. At times he had great fears of thieves and devils, and would carry about a double-barrelled gun to protect himself. Once he spoke of these devils as brushing by him at an evening meeting. At another, he thought a fellow boarder at the hotel had been robbed of a large sum. With two or three exceptions, the excitement was never so high as to require his confinement to the house, nor did it always prevent him from managing his affairs. It was said he was inclined to make purchases, generally of fancy articles quite unsuitable to his condition, but only one or two instances were related of his indulging in foolish speculations, and those were of trifling amount.

Depression immediately succeeded the excitement, and continued until spring. Once it was spoken of as disappearing in March; and at another time, in April. This, also, seems to have varied in severity. At one time, he is described as being still, sitting in company for hours without saying a word—shy, and avoiding his friends. In many of the depressed turns he was filled with vague fears and apprehensions, thought he was coming to want, and was disposed to suicide. In others he was able to attend to his customary business.

His daughters testified that, within their recollection (they are now respectively 25 and 23 years old), he had never been otherwise than excited or depressed; yet it was abundantly shown, by a cloud of witnesses who were in the habit of seeing him every day or two, for many years, that there were well-marked intervals between his attacks, when he was apparently free from excitement or depression. It was their concurrent testimony, that in these intervals his manners were natural and proper, his conduct and conversation correct, and nothing, in either, to arrest the observation of others. He managed the farm, both before and after his father's death, with no very obvious lack of prudence and intelligence, and creditably discharged the duties of a parent, husband and citizen. Various business transactions of his, at one time or another, were described by the witnesses, as having been performed with at least ordinary discretion and sagacity; and those who had these dealings with him, observed nothing strange or unusual in his appearance. He hired and paid his workmen, bought and sold his cattle, procured the necessary supplies of food and clothing for his family, placed his children at school away from home, and paid the bills for their board and tuition, married twice, bought and sold real estate, lent money, received payments, obtained discounts at the bank, and once (in 1832) was chosen by the parish as its agent for disposing of some lands. In all these transactions, the defendants undertook to show, that he evinced an ordinary share of shrewdness and intelligence, and in regard to many of them, certainly, this was the fact. Instances were mentioned of his giving too much for his purchases, and buying some things which he did not need; but nearly, if not quite all, these transactions occurred when he was confessedly in his excited state. One of them referred to the (spring of 1842) purchase of an old shop for a needy neighbor, and was first related in such a manner as to convey the impression that it was deeply tinged with folly. The testimony of the neighbor himself, however, presented the matter in a very different light. It appeared that he owned a lot of land, very near Allis's house, which it had been proposed to purchase for a burying place for the use of the town. Allis being loth to have a burying place so near him, suggested to the witness, that he had better put up a house on it. "I replied," said the latter, "that I had no funds, and then he offered to assist me. The next morning he came and proposed to buy for me a certain old shop near by, which might be made into a house, and could be obtained, he thought, for \$100." He succeeded in getting it for \$90, and had it removed to the lot in question, but failed to supply the funds necessary for converting it

into a house. Thus the land was not sold for a burying place, and he did no more than was necessary to defeat the project. Many of the witnesses, who had dealings with him, and spoke of him as evincing nothing strange or unusual in his manner, as appearing like other men, had seen him in his excited and depressed state, and declared that in them he had appeared very differently.

Instances of excitement were related, which apparently occurred while in his rational or lucid intervals, but they were transitory, and seemed to have been caused by sudden provocations, or some other special causes. In this connection it is proper to state, that following the custom of the times, he frequently, if not excessively, used ardent spirits; and it was testified that drinking always excited him.

The evidence respecting Allis's mental condition about the time of the transaction in question, is so important that I give it entire. In August, 1833, he went on a pleasure excursion to Saratoga, staid two or three weeks, and came back highly excited. In September he bought a piece of land of his nephew; he attended auctions, and was disposed to bid off everything that was sold. In that month or the next he went abroad to purchase cattle, for the purpose of fattening them. He was disposed, says a witness, to give whatever was asked, and actually did pay high prices. He said, when he returned home, that he had got them for a song. In October, his wife died. She was sick when he left home to buy cattle, and he told a young man, who lived with him, that if she died he must procure a coffin. Soon after this, he became depressed; was troubled at finding that he had bought more cattle than he had the means of feeding, and solicited his brother-in-law to help him out of his troubles. A witness who took some of the cattle to keep for him, said that Allis applied to him and made the bargain. He was to keep them from 25th November to early part of February, at \$1,17 per pair, Allis furnishing grain and witness hay. "He came often," said the witness, "to see the cattle—talked about them as other men do—appeared, in all respects, like other men. Said he would pay when he got returns, and did pay in the course of two or three weeks. I saw nothing like excitement or depression." In March, 1834, he conversed with a witness about the mills—said they were not profitable—that there was always something to be done on them, and that he thought of selling them. He said he had been offered \$4000 for his part, and asked witness's opinion about the price. The witness observed nothing wild or incoherent in his manner—was as usual when about his business. In March, if not before, he began to negotiate the arrangement with his brother-in-law, referred to in the beginning of this notice, which ended in a contract whereby the latter was to receive all Allis's real estate excepting the mills, and which was valued at between \$8000 and \$9000, maintaining him and his daughters, and giving the latter \$2000 each. His reasons for this step were, as appears from the evidence, that by the death of his wife, he was left with two young children, and an aged mother sick, that he was unable to get any suitable person to take charge of his family; and if his brother-in-law should

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prove a gainer by the arrangement, it would only turn a portion of his father's property into his sister's family. The brother-in-law went in March, and said he thought Allis continued depressed until the first of April, but soon went out to work with him, and appeared to be in his natural condition during the summer. He also consulted with his brother respecting the sale of the mills—told him what was offered, and his reasons for selling.

The evidence respecting the character of the act, inasmuch as it will affect our estimate of his mental capacity, remains to be considered. He felt perplexed by his business and over-burdened with cares. His brother, with whom he often spoke of his intention to sell the mills, told him it would be a judicious step and relieve him of care. Both this witness and another whom he consulted, expressed their satisfaction with the price. The fact of his being indebted to the defendants to the amount of \$500, or indeed to any amount, was neither proved nor disproved. If not so indebted, then he received at the rate of \$8000 for the whole property; otherwise, at the rate of \$9000. A few witnesses rated the mills at \$10,000, in 1834; one at \$12,000. A larger number fixed their value at \$6,000; at this sum they were assessed on the tax-book of the town that year.

Dr. Lee, assistant physician of the Lunatic Hospital at Worcester, testified that Allis entered that institution July 6th, 1844; that he was highly excited, and continued so four days; that this excitement, then, rather rapidly passed into depression, in which state he continued as long as he remained, which was six weeks. His opinion upon the evidence was, that the fact of periodical insanity was established, but not that of occasional insanity. He was satisfied of Allis's insanity in the spring of 1834.

Dr. Woodward, late Superintendent of the Hospital at Worcester, coincided with Dr. Lee, in the opinion that Allis had no lucid intervals, and must have been insane in the spring of 1834. Buying and selling he thought no proof, one way or the other, because insane men are capable of doing certain business. He admitted, however, that, if Allis, on his return from the Hospital, had talked with his family on the subject of his will, and had set down coolly and deliberately and made a proper will, the presumption would have been in its favor.

The writer was of the opinion that the existence of lucid intervals was abundantly proved; that in these intervals he was as capable of transacting business, as a person ever is, in a lucid interval, and that the contract in question was made in one of them. It should be stated in this connection, that the two first medical witnesses had heard none of defendants' witnesses, and not all of the plaintiff's; while the latter had heard all of the plaintiff's, and most of the defendants' witnesses.

The charge of the court to the jury contained some instructions that deserve the attention of the medical jurist. The jury were told that the precise point of inquiry for them was the state of Allis's mind on the 21st of March, 1834, and that his previous and subsequent states were only important as elucidating that inquiry. It was also stated that acts done

in a lucid interval, will be sustained by the law, and that the question of fraud is of little weight, except as connected with that of sanity and of the consideration paid. In regard to the burden of proof, the ordinary doctrine was given, viz., that if insanity is alleged, it must be proved; that if habitual insanity be proved, the party who contends that the act was done in a lucid interval must prove it; that if a party exhibits only temporary ebullitions of insanity, he cannot be presumed to be always insane. The Court also instructed the jury that Allis must have had sufficient capacity to judge of the character and value of the property sold, and the law required no more. On the point of affirmation, the Court said, that the contract was not void, but merely voidable, and therefore capable of ratification, and that, though it were the act of an insane man, it might stand if confirmed. If Allis, therefore, after recovering his reason, having in his recollection and knowledge, the nature, extent and time of the contract, and all the circumstances before his mind, recognized the sale by permitting possession on the part of the defendants, receiving instalments on the notes given for the purchase money, knowing it to be the consideration of the sale of his part of the mills, he would be bound by it.

The jury returned a verdict for the defendants, and thus the contract was not disturbed.—*Amer. Jour. of Insanity.*

#### THE CHOLERA IN TURKEY.

[THE following interesting letter is from the Rev. H. G. O. Dwight, one of the missionaries of the American Board, and is addressed to the editor of the New York Observer, from which paper we copy it. It is dated Constantinople, Aug. 27, 1848. Although not a medical man, Mr. D.'s opinions and suggestions are entitled to consideration.]

The cholera is still making dreadful ravages in various parts of Turkey, as well as in some portions of Europe. Mysterious disease! that stretches its gigantic arms from the Red to the White Sea, and at the same moment of time kills, as in a moment, its hundreds and thousands in Cairo, in Constantinople and in Petersburg! And thus it moves onward, and onward, and onward, towards the west, awakening the most gloomy forebodings in nations and countries yet unreached, while it leaves desolation and sorrow behind! Quarantines, and milito-sanitary cordons, are instituted in vain. They have again and again been proved to be most perfectly useless in staying the march of this dreadful pestilence. No quarantines nor disinfecting agents can be of any avail, unless you can adopt means so general and powerful as to change the character of the whole atmosphere around us. There can scarcely be a doubt that the Asiatic cholera, as it is called, depends upon a specific cause, and that that cause is in the atmosphere. Recent observations seem to show that the electric or magnetic fluid has something to do with it. This is a point upon which some light may be thrown in America, should the disease invade that country as now seems most probable, for the electric

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telegraphs in operation there are more numerous than in any other country in the world; and if, as has been asserted in Europe, the cholera atmosphere affects these instruments, the fact must surely be observed in America.

The cholera has now existed in the city of Constantinople for nearly one entire year; though much of the time it has been of a mild type, and limited in extent. Within the last month, however, it has shown more malignancy than at any former period, and during one week nearly all who were attacked, died. The number of deaths in the city, from cholera alone, during that week, was reported at 1,100. At the same time, the disease has been raging at Broosa, Nicomedia, Adabara Magnesia, Urntab, Aleppo, and various other places in the interior. Trebizond was dreadfully visited a year ago, and now the disease has returned with such violence as to drive almost everybody from the city that had the means of fleeing. It has just begun its ravages in Smyrna, where it is to be feared it will be particularly severe. As I have intimated, this scourge of the human race is moving westward. It will doubtless by-and-by be heard of from France and England, and then it will cross the Atlantic, as before, to perform its dreadful mission in America.

My principal object in introducing the subject into this letter is to communicate some facts concerning its treatment, which have been learned by experience in this part of the world, and which, though they may not be new to professional men in America, may tend to corroborate what they have already observed and heard on the subject, while those of your readers who are not versed in medical science may have their minds quieted somewhat, in knowing that there are precautions which, under God, will in most cases secure safety, even in the midst of the greatest exposures.

The Asiatic cholera, which when fairly seated is one of the most unmanageable of all diseases—despising all human art and skill, and mocking all the assiduities of friendship in almost all cases, *begins* with a *mild diarrhœa*, which in that stage is most readily cured. True, where the cholera is raging, we are continually hearing of persons who arose well in the morning, and are in their graves before night; and it is not to be doubted that there are some cases in which the very first attack of the disease is *the collapse*, from which recovery is rare. But I can say with truth, that *in every instance*, of these sudden deaths of cholera, in which I have been able to investigate the circumstances, I have found that the individual *had been laboring under diarrhœa for some days previous*. Generally it is so slight as not to be much noticed; it is attended with no pains, and no sickness of stomach, perhaps, and gives the person no particular inconvenience. But it is this very diarrhœa which is insidiously preparing the system for the most dreadful onset of disease. Whenever the cholera is prevailing in any place, it should be a rule in every instance *to stop even the slightest diarrhœa immediately*. For this we have a remedy always at hand. Opium, in some form or other, must be used *immediately*, and without fear. In the form of laudanum, perhaps it may be used most conveniently. At such times it should be

found in every house; and the master of the family should give the strictest injunction to every inmate of his house, to give *immediate notice*, if attacked with diarrhœa. In mild cases *six drops* of laudanum, for an adult, will be sufficient to check the disease. The dose should be repeated *every four hours until the diarrhœa is stopped*. This is a most important direction. In severe cases of diarrhœa, a larger dose must be used, and the dose may be increased indefinitely without the least injury, so long as the effect of *checking the diarrhœa* is not produced. I have been called to prescribe in a great multitude of cases of cholera, in this incipient stage, and I have found every one of them to yield to this medicine. The prescription is one which our good brother, Dr. Smith, left with his brethren in Turkey, in anticipation of the cholera, when he was returning to America; and by the blessing of God I do believe it has saved thousands of lives. Our native brethren in Nicomedia and Broosa having been instructed on the subject by Dr. Smith, have been exceedingly useful as instruments in checking the disease in a great multitude of cases. Many even of their worst enemies among the Americans have flocked to them for this medicine, and having proved its virtues have become their best friends.

I have used with the best effects, in many severe cases, when there was much pain, and tendency to cramps, and coldness in the extremities, a mixture of equal parts of *laudanum, tincture of rhubarb and tincture of camphor*. Of this, *eighteen drops* may be given for an adult at a dose in mild cases, to be increased according to circumstances. Of all epidemic or contagious diseases, none excites more general alarm, than the malignant cholera, and yet I know of none that gives such timely premonitions of its approach, and that is so perfectly under human control (so to speak) as this is in its early stage.

Of course, when there is a tendency to diarrhœa in cholera times, the strictest attention should be paid to diet, and fruits and crude vegetables should be carefully avoided. Wherever the cholera prevails, it has been found that most people are easily inclined to bowel complaints, and this is an indication that the diet of people generally should be regulated accordingly. A sudden change from a generous to a low diet in such circumstances has been found quite injurious. A person who is well should continue to eat very much as he has been accustomed to, except that most people eat *too much*, as a general rule, and except that fruits and certain vegetables, which at other times would be harmless, under the cholera atmosphere are apt to produce diarrhœa.

I will close my communication by giving some particulars of two or three cases, among many that have come under my observation, to illustrate what I have said above. I was awakened one night about midnight by two of my own children—one 15 and the other 13 years of age. They had both been suddenly attacked with diarrhœa and vomiting, accompanied with the severest pains, amounting almost to cramps in the stomach. The cholera was prevailing around, and, of course, I had the greatest reason for apprehension that this was a sudden attack of the disease. I administered immediately full doses of the mixture

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mentioned above, repeating it every two hours as long as the symptoms continued urgent. I gave also the oil of peppermint, and repeatedly applied the spirit of camphor, with friction, to the region of the stomach. The next day, they were both well again, excepting, of course, some debility from the preceding night's attack. They had both eaten freely the day before of a dish of stringed beans, and I remarked that each upward evacuation of the stomach brought with it some of these beans, in precisely the same state in which they had been eaten twelve hours before.

A European merchant of my acquaintance, residing in Galata, arose one morning and took a sea bath, as he was accustomed to do. He then attended to various matters of business, which required him to walk several miles back and forth in this city. He returned to his lodgings quite ill, sometime in the forenoon, and before night of the same day he was a corpse, having died of a most violent attack of cholera! This case was reported as one of death almost on the very first attack, but I ascertained on inquiry, that this individual had been suffering with diarrhœa for eight or ten days previous.

A Protestant American was very violently attacked, one night, with what his physician called "the most awful case of cholera he had ever witnessed." He died within twenty-four hours! The facts concerning the case, however, are these. He had had a similar attack two or three weeks previous, and had been cured by the blessing of God on the remedies mentioned above. The day before his second attack, while he was still weak from the first, he walked many miles, and became very much fatigued, and certain circumstances had also very much agitated his mind. He ate a hearty meal in the evening, partly of beans and meat, which no doubt was the immediate cause of the attack; and after the diarrhœa commenced, nothing was done to check it for several hours, and when, at last, a physician was called, it was too late.

Fain would I hope that our beloved country may be saved from the ravages of this scourge; but this can hardly be expected. It will probably come, and come to many, "as a thief in the night," although the warning has been long and loud. The class of people among whom it makes its greatest desolations, are those who use habitually the intoxicating cup. I don't know that even the strictest attention to the rules I have given above, will avail to save the drunkard, when he is once attacked. When the seeds of this disease are cast into such a man's system, it is like striking fire into a box of tinder. The whole internal coatings of his stomach, besides other vital organs, are already diseased, and he is a subject of which the cholera will make very short work.

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#### ON CHINOIDINE.

BY J. S. UNZICKER, M.D., OF CINCINNATI.

CHINOIDINE has been for several years past extensively used in Germany, but up to this time has not been generally known in this country.

It is a resinous substance, and was first discovered and separated from the mother liquor of sulph. quinine, by Sertuerner, a chemist. There are two kinds in commerce, the pure and impure. The genuine is hard, and has a smooth, glossy break, like the hepatic aloes, which it resembles in color. It is transported in oblong flat lumps weighing about one pound each, wrapped in wax paper; will dissolve perfectly in dilute sulphuric acid, alcohol and ether, forming a clear tincture of a brown color.

It is insoluble in cold, but scantily soluble in warm water, imparting to the latter a strongly bitter taste.

The adulterated comes in jars, and is soft; will only partly dissolve in alcohol and ether, not forming a clear tincture like the other.

Chinoidine has been analyzed by a number of chemists, but as yet no satisfactory results obtained. It contains, according to Liebig, identically the same composition as quinine, but differs only in form, one being crystalline, the other not, and therefore he terms it the amorphous quinine. Chemical investigations, as far as they have extended, have thrown an interesting light upon the testimonies borne to the efficacy of chinoidine in the treatment of intermittent fevers; and there is no doubt in my mind, that the amorphous, if prescribed in its pure state, like the crystalline quinia, will produce the same effect on the animal organism, only that the effects of the former are more lasting.

I have used chinoidine for the last three years more extensively than quinine, and on an average with better success, especially in cases of long standing.

In a number of obstinate cases of long standing, who came here from the Wabash country, quinine was first given without any effect. I then gave the chinoidine, which not only checked the paroxysms, but no relapse followed afterwards.

From the experience which I had during the above time with this remedy, I think the return of the fever was one third less than when I used the quinine. It is particularly suited in cases where the digestive organs are not much debilitated. My mode of giving it is thus:—R. Chinoidine, gr. xij.; rad. ipecac., gr. j.; morph. acet., gr. ½. Mix, and make into six pills, to be given in two doses, two hours previous to the chills. Some German physicians prefer to give the chinoidine in combination with cremor tartar and cloves, in the form of pills.

This I found would have the same effect as that of many grains of quinine with the same combination. After the chills were stopped, I would then give a teaspoonful of the tincture (3j. to 3j. of alcohol) from two to three times daily in some claret wine, for several days afterwards.

It has been said by some, that the effects of chinoidine depended on the quantity of chinine and cinchonine it contained. This is an error; for suppose it did contain some chinine and cinchonine, how much could there be in twelve grains of chinoidine? Surely not half a grain of each! and would they have produced the effect above described? Certainly not. Many, as well as myself, have labored under this

mistake, until they have learned to distinguish between the pure and impure article, for if it is pure the results will be alike.

Chinoidine will undoubtedly, in time, become the great remedy of practitioners in the West; for when we consider the high price of quinine, \$3 per ounce, and chinoidine at 40 cents per ounce, and besides a more effectual remedy than the former, no doubt is left of its adoption into general use.—*Western Lancet*.

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#### DEATH ACCELERATED BY SALIVATION IN THE THIRD STAGE OF TUBERCULAR CONSUMPTION.

AN inquest was held on the 11th of August on the body of Mrs. James Perry, whose death was reported to have been accelerated by the improper exhibition of mercury, said to have been administered by an unlicensed practitioner named Young. The facts of the case, as elicited at the inquest, are simply these:—Mrs. P. had been, until a very recent period before her death, under the charge of Dr. Arnoldi, and Dr. Holmes had seen her in consultation. The existence of tubercles in her lungs had been clearly made out; and for some time before the intermission of Dr. Arnoldi's attendance, a palliative treatment had been most judiciously adopted. In consequence of the advice of friends, Young was called in, who stated that her lungs were not diseased at all; that her liver was tuberculated, as well as her kidneys, and that the uterus was somehow or other displaced, and that the cessation of the catamenia, a common symptom in phthisis, was due to that displacement. This latter he endeavored to rectify by some kind of manual interference, some traces of injury from which were visible at the *post-mortem*; and he persuaded the patient to submit to a system of salivation, which he assured her would cure her. In the course of three or four weeks, however, despite Young's predictions, the patient breathed her last, having been visited for two or three days by Dr. Burns, who found her suffering from salivation, with its concomitants. The inquest was held to determine the propriety of Young's practice, and how far it may have accelerated the decease. Drs. Nelson and Hall having been summoned on the part of the Crown, performed the *post-mortem* examination, and found the left lung the seat of extensive tubercular deposit, with anfractuons cavities, as well as the superior portion of the right lung, with very general pleuritic adhesions on the left side, and superior portion of the right. The liver slightly enlarged, with a tendency to granular degeneration; the mesenteric glands in a tuberculated state; but all the other abdominal viscera of normal appearance. The uterus perfectly healthy, and in natural position. The upper part of the vagina, immediately behind the os uteri, presented an ecchymosed appearance, which Dr. Nelson considered as the effect of injury. Although the question of salivation was well substantiated, still there was not evidence adequate to bring the exhibition of the mercury home to the prescriber, the books of the apothecary, which were sent for and examined, failing in the



proof, in consequence of prescriptions having been compounded for several persons named Mrs. Perry by Young's orders. The verdict returned was "that the death of the deceased was accelerated by the improper administration of mercury, but there is no evidence to prove by whom such mercury was exhibited." This verdict was strictly in accordance with what was elicited at the inquisition, and we can therefore find no fault with it, because the jury could not travel beyond their record; but we have no doubt, that had the evidence been conclusive, the verdict of the jury would have inculpated Mr. Young to a rather alarming extent. Young has escaped in the mean while, and *in the mean while* he prosecutes his trade, not, most certainly, to the damage of any practitioner in this city, but most assuredly to the jeopardy of some who have since placed themselves in his hands.—*British American Journal of Medical and Physical Science.*

#### EPIDEMIC DYSENTERY.

*To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

SIR,—Having learned, from your Journal and other sources, that dysentery is prevailing somewhat extensively at the North, and is uncommonly fatal, I have thought a concise description of the symptoms and treatment, in different parts of this county, might be useful to the profession, and accordingly offer the following imperfect sketch, hoping others will give us some account of its appearance in other sections.

As far as my observation extends, it is confined to those situations where daily changes from heat to cold are greatest; viz., to valleys, where reflection from surrounding hills produces high temperature during the day, and evaporation from ponds and streams a low one at night. The thermometer in such locations shows a change of rarely less than seventeen degrees, and often twenty-eight and thirty, in twenty-four hours. I have not seen a single case exempt from the above influence; and not one traceable to errors in diet, or the common causes of bowel complaints. The disease has been very fatal in some neighborhoods; of some 25 or 30 attacked in one, 16 died. Of the treatment in those cases, I know but little; they were all children under 14 years of age.

The first I saw of the disease was April 3d, when two persons were attacked the same day; and in those and all subsequent cases, a striking characteristic of the disease was, its unyielding obstinacy, ordinary doses of medicine effecting nothing, and even twenty-five or thirty grains of opium in twenty-four hours procuring little rest or sleep. There was, from April 3d, an interval of precisely three months; but, from July 3d to the present time, I have had daily opportunity of studying the character, treatment, &c., of the disease. We have, usually, abundance of disease to treat in this section, through July and August, classed under the general head of *bowel complaints*; and side by side with the *epidemic*, have been cholera morbus, diarrhœa and dysentery, arising from teething, worms, unripe fruit, &c., and all yielding to ordinary reme-

dies. But no one, who had seen a single case of the disease in question, could mistake the sunken, anxious expression of countenance, the severe tenesmus, jerking pulse, and general violence and obstinacy of the disease, for any of these.

It was usually ushered in by more or less chill, followed by a moderate grade of fever; tongue coated with white fur; pulse not full, but hard and frequent, with a peculiar jerking movement; the discharges frequent, of blood or bloody mucus, with dreadful griping pains in the bowels, and steady pain in the loins. No pain in the head; no vomiting; skin dry and rough; urine scanty, and high colored. The disease seemed to exert its whole force on the rectum and colon; usually extending to the descending colon only, though sometimes reaching through the whole colon to the cæcum.

There was not the least particle of bile tinging the discharges; hence I inferred a want of action in the liver. To excite the action of the liver, and thereby relieve the venous congestion of the diseased parts, I gave blue mass and conium—say blue mass four grains and conium two grains, every three hours, until bilious discharges appeared; then, at longer intervals, regulating the dose so as to keep up a steady action of the liver, and following the mercury with castor oil as a laxative. With the above, I used opium in different forms, with ipecac. and acetate of lead—say for an adult, ipecac. and opium,  $\bar{a}\bar{a}$  grs. ij.; acet. lead, grs. iv.; or, what I preferred, acet. morphia instead of opium. As the bloody evacuations lessened, with a free flow of bile, I changed the lead for kino or tannin, at first giving both together—say tannin and ipecac.,  $\bar{a}\bar{a}$  gr. j.; sugar of lead, grs. ij; acetate morphia, gr.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , every three or four hours. If the tongue became dry, the astringents were lessened, or omitted, and blue mass ordered, with laxatives of oil.

When occasional bloody evacuations appeared, after the height of the disease was passed, balsam copaiba in small doses was very useful. Injections were used, but were found to be of doubtful efficacy, and in some cases were decidedly injurious, the inflamed surface bearing *no* direct application. The following I found decidedly useful. Dilute vinegar, Oj.; s. lead,  $\mathfrak{z}$  ij.; tr. opium,  $\mathfrak{z}$  j. Flannels, wet in this, to be applied to the bowels. Narcotism was carefully avoided in children, though mercury and lead were given freely; one main point in the treatment being, to *procure a free and steady action in the liver*, not one fatal case occurring where that was obtained. The first flow of bile was in each case dark and granular, like coffee grounds, and very offensive; but always affording more or less relief. As diet, I used the various mucilages, with as much ice as patients chose to eat.

Convalescence was slow, and very tedious to patients whose appetites were craving *forbidden fruit*. The duration of the disease would average about nine days.

Though the above treatment may seem an *abuse of potent remedies*, yet they were never carried beyond the point of relief; and not the first sign of salivation has followed the continued use of blue pill in this disease.

Clinton Co., N. Y., October, 1848.

M.D.

## ADULTERATION OF MEDICINES.—THE NEW LAW.

*To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

DEAR SIR,—As the recent law of Congress concerning the *importation* of adulterated drugs, seems to the writer to fall far short of a corrective of the evil, he would respectfully inquire whether the subject is not one which demands more fully the attention and action of the profession itself. Waiving all details (for every intelligent physician is fully aware of the extent of this growing evil, and every humane heart must be impressed with the importance of a speedy and efficient corrective), I would inquire, whether a joint-stock institution might not be formed, under the auspices of the American Medical Association, its officers appointed with salaries, to command the best talents, &c., with ample testing apparatus, and no article be allowed to pass from under their hands that has not undergone a rigid analysis. The business to be expressly for the physicians' trade. And further to facilitate its general objects, let agencies be instituted in every State in the Union, the central business being done, say, at New York. Thus might be secured a well-guaranteed pure article at a reasonable price—the profits inuring to the profession (being themselves the only stockholders), with untold benefit to humanity, and bringing certainty and order out of that chaos of conflicting reports of the results of given doses of officinal preparations.

Shall we expend vast sums annually to inspect, at the public expense, tobacco, meat, flour, &c. &c., and leave the languid, infirm, the sick and the dying, to the tender mercies of the reckless speculator, more greedy than the grave itself?

A. KELLOGG, M.D.

*San Antonio, Texas, Sept., 1848.*

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 THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.
 

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BOSTON, OCTOBER 25, 1848.

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*Medical Communications to the Massachusetts Medical Society.*—On the 31st of May last, at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society, Dr. Bell, of Somerville, delivered a discourse that made a favorable impression on the members. It was learned without pretence, and creditable in the highest sense to the author. Owing to some friction of machinery beyond our ken, the transactions of the Society (being Part VII., No. VII.) have dragged along, through the press, at a snail's pace—not having been distributed till last week. The book is freighted with something worth reading, however, 227 pages being exclusively devoted to the subject of ventilation—the theme pursued by Dr. Bell with singular zeal and success. Next follows a history of the meetings of the council, the reports of committees, &c., making as agreeable a variety as could be desired, while it exhibits the doings of each and all holding official relation to the Society.

Medical literature ought to be in a flourishing condition. The associations, clubs, brotherhoods, and incorporated medical societies in the United States, are usually organized for the express purpose of gathering in the scattered fragments, and consolidating them for present service and future study. Yet with all these sturdy preparations for effort, how very little is produced. Surely the seed falls on barren ground, or the results of long thinking and doing would certainly be more extensively known. Learned researches, and extraordinary exhibitions of scientific attainment, appertain, ordinarily, to humble individuals. Men who loll upon silk cushions, write with gold pens, and reside in palaces, rarely surprise the world with bold discoveries, or remarkably ingenious theories in medicine. It is often pretty much so with societies—the show of doing constituting the essential feature in their progress. Yet we occasionally find valuable service done by them, as in the case of Dr. Bell's dissertation already noticed.

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*Transactions of the American Medical Association.*—Some complaints have been uttered on account of the delay in the publication of the doings at the first annual meeting of the American Association, held at Baltimore, in May last. By taking time for printing the documents, a very inviting book has been constructed, abounding in materials of value to the medical reader. There are 400 octavo pages, embracing a catalogue of the permanent members and delegates, with a variety of papers emanating from sources that must command respect. A few engravings, too, appear; and, as a whole, the mixed matters which make up the volume of transactions, constitute an instructive and profitable mass of reading for professional gentlemen of all ages and places. In this work, we are presented with a transcript of the views and shades of feeling influencing medical men in all parts of the Union. And it is a happy thought, that the labors of the Association directly tend to the promotion of good fellowship and fraternal sympathies, and the elevation of the national medical character. Not being disposed to inveterate fault-finding, we leave it to those who dislike some of the reports, if there are any such, to speak out their dissatisfaction. We are of the number who are disposed to approve and be influenced by the deliberations and decisions of that great body of learned men. Out of four hundred pages, the opportunity presents of extracting something, and it is probable that we shall do so, after having disposed of a multitude of other matters which collect upon an editor's table.

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*Ethics of the American Medical Association.*—Philadelphia is appropriately called the city of brotherly love; and of this we are convinced since receiving the Code of Ethics of the American Medical Association, printed by the Philadelphia delegation to that assembly, for private distribution. They are certainly men of active benevolence, who omit no opportunity for increasing a good understanding, and therefore promoting happiness and usefulness, in the ranks of the profession, of which the publication of this excellent document is a striking evidence.

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*Etherization in Child-birth.*—Some months since, the preparation of a work by Dr. Channing, of Boston, was announced, on Etherization in Child-birth. Last week it was ready for distribution, and we know of no recent publication that will be sought for with more avidity or read with

more profit. Dr. Channing's position, both as an eminent teacher and equally distinguished practitioner, gives weight to his researches, and they are destined to exert a commanding influence over other minds. By another week, opportunity will be taken to point out the leading characteristics of this valuable publication. Copies are procurable at Ticknor & Co.'s, the publishers, Washington st., Boston.

*Dunglison's Medical Dictionary.*—A proof of the estimation in which this lexicon is held, is discoverable in the fact that a seventh edition is required to meet the constant demands of an intelligent medical public. This new edition is large enough for convenience, and yet none too formidable for the desk or library table. The whole is enlarged more than one hundred pages, and contains a corresponding amount of new material—to the extent of between *six and seven thousand terms*. It is therefore one of the most complete and copious dictionaries known to the cultivators of medical science, and every way worthy of their entire confidence. Students should always be put in possession of the best authorities in the commencement of their studies, and this, of all others, is the elementary guide to an understanding of all they read. A recollection of the value of a dictionary, explanatory of all the terms known to medicine and its kindred branches, must influence those engaged in a course of instruction, to furnish themselves with the best of the kind—one embracing all the different departments—each of which would be a dead letter without a key to the technicalities that constantly present themselves to new beginners.

*Morehead's Magnetic Machine.*—A disposition is manifested, of late, to seek relief from many painful diseases, in electro-magnetism. There can be no quackery whatever, either in the source of the remedy or its application, as the discoveries of the modern school of philosophers exhibit the proudest exhibitions of intellectual power, by their bold advances into the nature and influences of electricity. D. C. Morehead, M.D., of New York, manufactures very excellent and economical apparatus for making an application of that subtle agent, electro-magnetism, the value of which, in the hands of physicians, is just beginning to be appreciated. His machines are designated as *graduated*, the operator being able to vary the force and intensity, with perfect ease. Being exceedingly compact (the art of packing almost keeping pace with the progress of discovery), the whole battery, wires, handles, helix, and all, arranged in a beautiful rose-wood box, they are easily transported. But the cheapness of the article, twelve dollars only, places it completely within the reach of the whole mass of practitioners—who are desirous, as a body, to possess whatever may conduce to the amelioration and restoration of their patients. Very much might be said of the good accomplished by the aid of electro-magnetism, as administered by one of these machines, but it is by no means necessary, as they carry their own recommendation.

*Diaphragm Filter.*—Some months ago, mention was made of the simple, ingenious and useful contrivance for filtering water, to be had of Mr. Thacher Beal, 249 Tremont Street. Within a very short period, the Long Pond water will be abundantly distributed over the city; but it must always be filtered, to be truly potable and perfectly wholesome. Impuri-

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ties, from various sources, will always be held in solution, under the most favorable circumstances; and since it is possible to separate all foreign matter, and leave the water clear and palatable, every house in Boston should possess some apparatus for thus preparing the water for use. The diaphragm filter seems to be superior to any device heretofore presented to the public; is cheaper, certain in its operation, not liable to derangement, and answers most effectually the intentions of the constructor.

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*Chloroform in Dental Surgery.*—Mr. F. B. Imlach, a dental operator of Edinburgh, communicated a paper to the Medico-Chirurgical Society of that city, which was sent to the Journal of Medical Sciences, and now appears in a pamphlet. It reads well, and must give dentists a good share of confidence in the administration of chloroform. His conclusions are, that chloroform saves the patient present physical suffering and previous struggles of feeling; and it enables the operator to perform his work with more satisfaction, certainty and success.

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*Emulsion of Castor Oil.*—The following formula is published in the Journal de Chimie Medicale, under the signature of A. Manne, Pharmacien, Paris.

"Having frequently to make emulsions of castor oil, either by prescription of physicians, or at the demand of my customers, making them in fact four or five times a day, I found myself in a position to make researches relative to the best means of administering this medicine. \* \* \* I have employed gum Arabic in different proportions, but have obtained emulsions either too thick or imperfectly made. The yolk of egg has offered me an excellent emulsion, but one yolk is required for every ounce and a half of oil. Is it not possible that the yolk of egg injures the purgative effects of the oil by its nutritive properties? does it not render the purgative heavier and less supportable by the stomach? These doubtful points led me to doubt the utility of yolk of egg, and to make other attempts at finding a means of making a homogeneous emulsion, agreeable to the sight and more supportable by the stomach. To accomplish this, I have had recourse to gum tragacanth, and the following formula has given the most satisfactory results. R. Castor oil, 11 drachms; Powdered tragacanth, half dr.; White sugar, 75 grains; Water, 2½ fluid ounces; Syrup of orange flowers, 6 fluid drs. Mix and make an emulsion as follows: Triturate the tragacanth with the sugar, then add the syrup and agitate rapidly in a mortar until the mucilage begins to thicken a little, then add the oil and continue to triturate until the mixture is homogeneous, and add the water little by little during the trituration. In this manner I have obtained an emulsion of castor oil which leaves nothing to desire, and which will remain eight or ten days without an atom of oil separating."

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*New Prussian Pharmacopœia.*—This new pharmacopœia, upon which the most distinguished physicians, chemists, and pharmaciens have been engaged—viz., Messrs. Barwalt, Gurlt, Horn, Kleist, Link, E. Mitscherlich, &c.—is written in Latin. The alphabetical order has been followed, and tables are added, which at one glance acquaint the pharmacien with the duties and regulations which he has to observe. One of these tables

contains the list of drugs which apothecaries may procure, from the manufacturers, as rectified sulphuric acid, ether, magnesia, porphyzied iron, purified mercury, corrosive sublimate, red precipitate, potassa fusa, morphia, alcohol, nitrate of strychnine, veratria, &c. Another table contains the list of the drugs which must be kept under lock and key. This list is very short, whilst the same is very long in France. A third specifies a great number of substances which should be kept separate from the others, without, however, being locked up. A fourth indicates the maximum dose at which some active drugs can be safely administered, except the physician has placed the sign of admiration (!) by the side of the prescription. In the absence of this sign, on the ordinary dose being exceeded, the apothecary is fined for dispensing the recipe. A fifth table, lastly, gives the specific gravity of certain liquids, to serve as a standard to the commissioners, whose duty it is to inspect apothecaries' establishments.—*London Lancet*.

*Medical Practitioners in Delaware.*—The number of practitioners of medicine in the State of Delaware is 100. Of these, 48 reside in New-castle County; 27 in Kent County; and 25 in Sussex County. Of the whole number, 70 are graduates, and hold the license of the State; 2 are graduates, but practise without any legal authority; 7 are not graduates, but practise under the State license; and 21 are neither graduates nor licentiates.

Under the general law regulating the practice of medicine and surgery in the State of Delaware, every practitioner is required to take out the license of the State. The graduates of any respectable medical school, and such other persons as shall sustain a satisfactory examination before the Medical Board of Examiners, are entitled to this license on the payment of a fee of ten dollars. But under special acts of the Legislature, passed since the date of the general law, homœopathists and Thomsonians are permitted to practise without diplomas, and without examination by the Board, or the payment of a fee.—*Transactions of the American Medical Association*.

*Conflicting Opinions in France on Gun-shot Wounds.*—It appears that some of the leading surgeons of Paris are not quite agreed as to the relative size of the aperture of entrance and exit made by balls. M. Legros stated, at a meeting of the Société Médicale du Temple, that by careful observations of the dead and wounded in the recent conflict, he had arrived at the same conclusion as Dupuytren, viz., that the wound of entrance is smaller than the aperture of issue. M. Blandin, at the Hotel Dieu, says the reverse; and M. Roux, the latter gentleman's colleague, expresses himself thus:—The older military surgeons had hitherto thought that the aperture of entrance is smaller than the wound of issue; the modern maintain quite the contrary; and for my part I can say that both parties may in turn be right. There is another question at issue about gun-shot wounds, viz., whether "balls ever split when coming in contact with bones;" M. Jobert, at St. Louis, says no; and even exclaims, "*risum teneatis!*" but M. Legros, backed by Dupuytren, says yes, and appeals to actual cases with experiments on dogs; and as to the cutting of balls, he showed one, erroneously attributed to the insurgents, which had entered the frontal bone,



and was extracted from under the hairy scalp covering the occipital; which latter was extensively shattered; this ball looked very irregular and cut in several places, with splinters of bone adherent to the head. Among the shower of balls which in a platoon fire entered an ironmonger's shop, a great many were greatly misshapen by meeting with resisting substances; one, in particular, looked very much like a corkscrew.—*London Lancet*.

**Nitrate of Silver.**—We are often called on by physicians to point a stick of lunar caustic for convenient use. Several modes are in use:—by solution, by mechanical force, and by casting in a mould; but by far the most expeditious and easy method is the following:—Take a silver coin (say half a dollar), hold it with a pair of forceps over the flame of a lamp until it is hot enough to fuse the nitrate, then having the cylinder of caustic in the right hand, between the thumb and index finger, holding it at an angle of 30 or 40 degrees with the surface of the coin, pressing the point on the latter and turning the cylinder as the part in contact fuses off. A little practice gives great dexterity; and a point of any required acuteness may be obtained, whilst the excess of the salt on the surface of the coin can be returned to the bottle.—*American Journal of Pharmacy*.

**Medical Miscellany.**—Dr. Charles H. Wetmore sailed for the Sandwich Islands, from Boston, last week, in the service of the American Board of Foreign Missions.—The average number of inhabitants to a square mile in China, is 230; in England, 236; in Ireland, 275.—A Frenchman at Louth, Eng., of moderate size, but muscular, with nothing in his hand, broke, by a sheer blow, first a large piece of flint, which was shivered into a dozen pieces, then a big granite cobble; this he broke clean into two pieces. There was no trick whatever in the feat; but it was done by the strength and muscle of a man five feet two inches high.—At Alexandria, Ky., hydrophobia is represented to be extensively prevalent among the dogs and cattle.—Chloroform has been used successfully in Iowa. One half the lower jaw was recently removed by Dr. French from a child 8 years old, who was totally unconscious of the dreadful operation.—On the first Monday in December the first course of medical lectures in the University of Iowa, will commence at Iowa city.—Lyne Sterling has just added \$5000 to his previous donation of \$30,000 to found a medical college to bear his name, in Columbus, Ohio.—An idea has been advanced abroad, that cholera is propagated by minute insects, flying in the form of invisible clouds over the world.—The insurrection among the females in a Hospital in France, mentioned in last week's Journal as occurring at Lyons, took place in Marseilles.—Dr. Holmes, in his report to the American Medical Association, described the New York Annalist as a weekly publication. This is a mistake—it being published only twice a month. The Boston Journal is the only weekly medical one in the country.

**MARRIED.**—At Stockbridge, Mass., F. W. Cragin, M.D., American Consul at Paramaribo, to Miss M. J. Fowler.

**DIED.**—At Worcester, Mass., Dr. Thomas Fiske, killed on a railroad.—In Roxbury, Mass., Dr. Joseph B. Pettes, 68.—In Portland, Me., Dr. Albus Rea, 54.—At Parsboro', Nova Scotia, Christopher C. Yates, M.D., formerly of New York.

**Report of Deaths in Boston**—for the week ending Oct. 21, 68.—Males, 34—females, 34.—Still-born, 10. Of consumption, 9—disease of the bowels, 8—dysentery, 11—cholera infantum, 1—typhus fever, 2—scarlet fever, 2—slow fever, 3—lung fever, 2—old age, 2—croup, 2—disease of the heart, 3—disease of the hip, 1—paralysis, 3—inflammation of the brain, 1—infantile, 4—syphilis, 1—disease of the spine, 1—marasmus, 2—erysipelas, 1—apoplexy, 1—child-bed, 2—canker in the bowels, 1—inflammation of the bowels, 1—convulsions, 2—diarrhoea, 2.

Under 5 years, 22—between 5 and 20 years, 7—between 20 and 40 years, 21—between 40 and 60 years, 7—over 60 years, 11.

## MEDICAL JOURNAL ADVERTISING SHEET.

### MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL COLLEGE.

THE Medical Lectures of Harvard University will commence on the first Wednesday in November, at the Medical College in Grove street, Boston, and continue four months.

Obstetrics and Medical Jurisprudence, by	- - - -	WALTER CHANNING, M.D.
Materia Medica and Clinical Medicine, by	- - - -	JACOB BIGELOW, M.D.
Surgery, by	- - - -	GEORGE HAYWARD, M.D.
Chemistry, by	- - - -	JOHN W. WEBSTER, M.D.
Theory and Practice of Medicine, by	- - - -	JOHN WARE, M.D.
Pathological Anatomy, by	- - - -	JOHN B. S. JACKSON, M.D.
Anatomy and Physiology, by	- - - -	OLIVER W. HOLMES, M.D.

The fees for the whole Course are collectively, \$80. Matriculation, \$3. Dissecting Ticket, \$5. Graduation, \$30. Admission to the Hospital and use of the Library are gratuitous.

The new Medical College in Grove street is of ample dimensions, and contains, besides its Lecture Rooms, a very extensive museum of Healthy and Pathological Preparations, and a complete Chemical Laboratory.

The Massachusetts General Hospital is now one of the largest, best endowed and best arranged institutions in the United States. Four of the Professors in the University are also Physicians or Surgeons of the Hospital, so that regular clinical instruction is given, and all the surgical operations are open to the Medical Students during the Lectures and throughout the year.

July 26, 1848.

Aug 2—eptl.

OLIVER W. HOLMES, *Dean*.

### J. P. MAYNARD'S LIQUID ADHESIVE PLASTER, OR COTTON SOLUTION.

A new and elegant substitute for Plaster Cloth, Sutures, Bandages, &c., in surgical operations. It is also much preferable to Court Plaster and Gold Beater's Skin, being nearly the color of the skin, adhering more closely to it, and continuing pliable and unaffected by washing.

This article, originally applied to Surgery by J. P. MAYNARD, has been found by all Surgeons who have tested it, far superior and more convenient than any former means of dressing Incised Wounds. For Burns, Sore Nipples, and all excoriated surfaces, it has proved extremely efficacious. It is not acted upon by water, and adheres with almost incredible tenacity to the skin, keeping the edges of the wound closely together, and causing it to heal with hardly a perceptible scar.

Prepared after the formula of J. P. Maynard, by MAYNARD & NOYES, and for sale by them at No. 11 Merchant's Row. apr. 26—eptf

### PURIFIED COD LIVER OIL.

SOLD at wholesale and retail, by WM. B. LITTLE & CO., Chemists, 104 Hanover street. mh22

### PURE CHLOROFORM.

For sale by Joseph Burnett, Apothecary, No. 33 Tremont Row.

Jan. 5—lf.

### CONCENTRATED CHLORIC ETHER.

WM. B. LITTLE & Co., Chemists, 104 Hanover St., have for sale Concentrated Chloric Ether, of the same strength and quality as that distilled by them for the Massachusetts General Hospital, and which is recommended by Dr. John C. Warren, and other eminent surgeons, as being preferable to chloroform for anæsthetic purposes. Also, as above.

### PURE CHLOROFORM.

in any quantity, at wholesale and retail, at the lowest market prices.

June 7—tf

### TO THE FACULTY.—SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS.

THE subscriber respectfully informs the Profession, that he is established at No. 18 School Street, Boston, for the manufacturing and repairing of every description of Surgical Instruments. Having been for upwards of twenty years severally in the employ of Weiss & Co., Evans & Co., and also the eminent firm of Savigny & Co., with whom he became practically acquainted with all the delicate intricacies of his business, he assures those who may favor him with their patronage, that no display of skill, attention and punctuality will be wanting on his part to secure a continuance of the same.

Having been highly recommended, by the last mentioned firm, to the Royal Orthopedic Hospital, London, for upwards of two years he there manufactured and adjusted to upwards of one thousand patients, all the various mechanical apparatus for the relief and cure of every species of deformity, subject to the supervision of the distinguished gentlemen who were interested in the success of that institution—viz. Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Liston, Sir Benjamin Brodie, and the resident Surgeons, Messrs. Tamplin, Lonsdale and Chance, by whom he was fully instructed in all that pertains to the successful practice of Orthopedy, as well as the accurate manufacture of the precise kind of instrument required in each case of deformity.

Surgeons and Physicians, therefore, desirous of including Orthopedic Surgery in their regular practice, have now an opportunity of doing so, never before presented to them, inasmuch as he has superadded many valuable improvements of his own, to the respective instruments, finally arrived at by very slow and expensive processes, which the ample funds of the Royal Orthopedic Hospital alone could supply, as not less than thirty thousand dollars were expended in testing the various mechanical arrangements before a safe and satisfactory result was obtained. His mode of procedure will be the same as prevails in the private practice of the faculty in London, viz. :—to make the apparatus, and leave the subsequent treatment in the hands of the profession, of the nature of which treatment every information will be cheerfully furnished. In the cases of poor persons recommended to him by the faculty, he will be happy to attend to their treatment, at the mere cost of the apparatus, thus affording them the benevolent advantages obtained in the public hospitals of the older cities of Europe.

Reference will be given to a few severe cases in the vicinity of Boston, in which other means have been tried and signally failed, but in which this mild system of treatment has effected a perfect cure, without any pain or inconvenience whatever to the patients.

HENRY FININLEY.

No. 18 School St. Boston, July, 1848.

Aug. 2.

### A GOOD OPPORTUNITY

Now offers in Grantville, in Nova Scotia, for a physician of ability to establish himself in permanent practice. Income perhaps \$300 to \$1,000. Direct to Dr. G. B. Dexter, Lower Grantville, N. S., to be left at Ladd & Hall's, Boston. 04—lf